

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 211931

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE STATE 13118, ASSUME IT WAS COORDINATED WITH DAO?
ALSO, RE PARA 11, TRUST AMBASSADOR RECALLS BRIEFING ON
SUBJECT HE HAD HERE LAST FALL OR WINTER. DECISION BY
HIGH-LEVEL RECIPIENT OF OTHER CABLE ON SUBJECT IS TO GO
AHEAD, BUT CAREFULLY. WE WILL CHECK OUT LOAD FACTOR
QUESTION, WHICH REMAINS CONFUSED, AND WILL IN DUE COURSE
BE BACK TO YOU WITH PROPOSAL ON LOGISTICS TAKING INTO
ACCOUNT YOUR COMMENTS.

2. SORRY ABOUT THE BURDEN THE VOA MONITOR WILL PLACE ON
YOU. WE COULD SEE NO OTHER WAY OF FULFILLING THE NSSM
REQUIREMENT, HOWEVER, AND THE DATA IS ESSENTIAL IF VOA IS
TO GET A FAIR SHAKE.

3. THE POST DIFFERENTIAL MESSAGE CAME AS A SURPRISE TO US.
WE HAD HEARD THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF A TEAM WAS UNDER
DISCUSSION BUT HAD HOPED TO EITHER AVOID GIVING YOU A NEW
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DS 1733 TO WRITE OR BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU SOME INFORMED

ADVICE AS TO WHERE TO STRENGTHEN IT. WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH

INFORMATION TO BE SPECIFIC ON THE LATTER POINT, BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT SINCE YOU ARE AT THE TOP OF THE SCALE IN THE CATEGORIES OF HEALTH, ISOLATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS YOU OUGHT TO WORK ON OTHER AREAS. MAYBE YOUR SUGGESTION TO THE TEAM OUGHT TO BE TO PROVIDE A BONUS FOR THOSE WHO ARE OVER THE TOP IN THESE THREE CATEGORIES. BUT HOWEVER THE FORM COMES OUT THE SMART MONEY SAYS YOU'LL GET ANOTHER 5 PERCENT.

4. IF JOE PRESEL GETS TO MUNICH BEFORE JACK HE MIGHT WANT TO SPEND SOME TIME LISTENING TO THE TAPES OF THE SCRIPTS OF THE RL PROGRAMS TO BE REVIEWED SO THAT HE AND JACK CAN MAKE SOME COMMENTS ON PROGRAM SOUND, PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES AND THE LIKE WHICH WOULD MAKE COMMENTS ON THE SUBSTANCE OF PROGRAMS TO BE REVIEWED MORE PALATABLE.

5. WE WERE GLAD TO HEAR THAT TOM TRACY IS OPTIMISTIC ON GETTING SOMETHING WORKED OUT IN KIEV AND PLEASED WITH THE PACKAGE PUT TOGETHER. BUT WE WERE SURPRISED TO DISCOVER THAT PART OF THE PACKAGE PRESENTED TO SOVIETS IS AN ELEVATOR AT GORKIY. IN DISCUSSIONS HERE WITH ROBIN WE CONCLUDED THAT WE SHOULD AVOID HAVING AN ELEVATOR. WE THINK EUR/EX AND FBO WILL HAVE CONSIDERABLE PROBLEMS WITH THE PROPOSAL IN VIEW OF THE COST AND MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS. WE MENTIONED IT TO JIM TULL IN EX BUT NOT TO FBO, AS WE DIDN'T WISH TO STIR UP PAUL. DID TOM DISCUSS IT WITH JOAN? OUR ADVICE WOULD BE TO DROP THE ELEVATOR IDEA, SINCE WE THINK IT WILL CREATE MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT SOLVES.

6. WE ARE GOING FORWARD THIS WEEK WITH CHANCERY MEMO WHICH DIXIE BROUGHT YOU IN DRAFT. TRUST YOU HAVE NO MAJOR PROBLEMS.

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